# RAVENS SCANS

## Mayonaka no X Giten

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He was always at the top of his class. A prodigy, some called him.

His family was close. They were famous in the neighborhood for how well they got along.

Kirishima Sachi, age 18. Lived with his parents, an older brother, and a younger sister.

And that itself led to the birth of the serial killer X,

...But all of that was strictly their public persona.

A heavy darkness lurked within the Kirishima household.

Kirishima Sachi's other self.

THE SERIAL KILLER BORN FROM THE KIRISHIMA FAMILY'S DARKNESS: KIRISHIMA SACHI!!

CHAPTER 23: EMPTINESS

# 真夜中のX儀典

STORY: YAMAGUCHI MIKOTO ART: BAREISHO

...EVEN IF THAT WERE TRUE, CAN THAT METHOD ACTUALLY BRING BACK THE SPLIT-OFF PERSONALITY?

IT SHOULD ... RIGHT?

KIRISHIMA SACHI HAD A SPLIT PERSONALITY?

YES.

A STRONG INDICATOR SUPPORTING THE INITIAL THEORY WAS OUR FINDING OF LEFT-HANDED SCISSORS IN THE RIGHT-HANDED SACHI'S ROOM.

...THERE'S MUCH I CAN'T BELIEVE, BUT WHEN THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE THING OF ALL IS HAPPENING RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES...

HEYYA.

PRECISELY.

WHEN THEY PRESSED THE SINGLE, FOLDED-IN-HALF CARD BETWEEN THEIR FOREHEADS, THE PERSONALITY RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL BODY.

I SHALL TELL YOU EVERYTHING.

...MM.

...I SUPPOSED I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE. I ADMIT IT; I'VE LOST.

...WHAT DO YOU SAY, KIRISHIMA SACHI-KUN?

THERE IS MUCH WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE INCIDENT, IF YOU ARE ABLE.

EVERY MEMBER OF THE KIRISHIMA CLAN IS AS TWO-FACED AS COULD BE.

AS SOME OF THOSE PRESENT MAY BE AWARE,

...AS YOU'VE REQUES-TED, WE'VE HAD HER RE-MOVED.

THEN I'LL START AGAIN.

...UNDERS-TOOD.

BUT FIRST, PLEASE TAKE AI FROM THIS ROOM.

NONE OF THIS IS ANYTHING SHE WOULD WANT TO REMEMBER.

HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH WE WERE COUNTED AMONG THEIR NUMBER,

THE WORLD CONSIDERED MY FAMILY TO BE AS HONEST AND CLEAN AS THEY COME.

BUT YOU KNOW?

THE TRUTH IS, MY HOUSE...

WAS THE DARKEST OF ALL.

HE PLAYED THE SERIOUS AND STUPENDOUS BROTHER IN PUBLIC...

BUT BENEATH THAT MASK WAS A MIND WARPED BY JEALOUSY.

WHENEVER HE SAW SOMETHING THAT WASN'T JUST THE WAY HE WANTED IT, VIOLENCE FOLLOWED.

ESPECIALLY MY BROTHER

HE WAS TRULY A MAN BEYOND REDEMPTION.

HE RELENTLESSLY BEAT ME WHEN I WAS LITTLE.

B-BROTHER, WHY DO YOU KEEP HITTING MY CHEST?

IF YOU HATE ME THAT MUCH, YOU'RE WELCOME TO HIT ME IN THE FACE.

SACHI!!

[sfx]: Thud!

[sfx]: Pound!

SACHI... NII-SAMA...

IN THE HOUSE OF TWO-FACED LIARS STOOD I, A MAN WHO DID NOT MINCE HIS WORDS. THAT I WAS HATED WOULD BE AN UNDERSTATEMENT.

"SHAMED"?

HEH HEH... GIVEN THAT YOU'D ATTACK YOUR OWN BROTHER BECAUSE YOU'RE JEALOUS OF HIS ABILITIES...

...SACHI, YOU PIECE OF...

I'M PRETTY SURE YOU'VE ALREADY BROUGHT MORE THAN ENOUGH SHAME UPON YOURSELF.

I DO THAT, EVERYONE ELSE'LL FIND OUT.

YOU THINK I WANNA GET SHAMED OUT IN PUBLIC?

WITH EACH PASSING DAY, MY BROTHER'S VIOLENCE ESCALATED.

MY PARENTS, MEANWHILE, TURNED A BLIND EYE.

IT WAS A WRETCHED TIME.

IF I HAD NO ONE ON MY SIDE, I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT THROUGH— BUT I DID. I HAD AI.

BUT TIME WENT ON, AND EVEN-TUALLY MY BROTHER'S BEATINGS WERE SU-PPRESSED.

OR RATHER, I SHOULD SAY I SUPPRESSED THEM MYSELF.

FOR BY THE TIME I ENTERED MY SOPHO-MORE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, I COULD OUTMUSCLE HIM.

...!

BROTHER, IF YOU CONTINUE THIS ANY FURTHER, I WON'T HOLD BACK.

[sfx]: Creek

HOWEVER, INVERSELY, ALL STRENGTH SEEMED TO DRAIN FROM AI.

AFTER THAT, MY DAYS GREW TRANQUIL.

WHEN AI REACHED THE POINT WHERE SHE COULD ASK ME THAT PUZZLING QUESTION...

SACHI-NII-SAMA, HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT THAT YOU WANTED TO BECOME SOMEONE YOU AREN'T?

AND THEN...

CREEK

...I SAW IT.

CREEK

I SAW THE TRUE DARKNESS.

CREEK

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT.

CREEK

CREEK

BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS TAKE HIS SIDE.

CREEK

LISTEN, AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.

ONCE I HAD BORN WITNESS TO THAT...

CREEK

OOH...

IT'S OVER, AI. YOU'RE MINE NOW.

SUCK IT, SACHI. NOW YOU'RE ALL ALONE.

Whimper

OOH...

CREEK

WAS IT THE KIRISHIMA BLOOD?

I, TOO, HAD A DARK SIDE; THE THOUGHT REVOLTED ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

I'M SORRY, AL. SORRY I DIDN'T REALIZE SOONER.

BUT I WON'T LET THIS HAPPEN EVER AGAIN.

...SACHI-NII-SAMA, I REALLY DO WANT TO BECOME SOMEONE I'M NOT.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO EMBRACE ME WHEN I'M IN THIS BODY, THIS DEFILED FLESH.

...DON'T SAY THAT.

WHAT'S MORE, SO LONG AS I'M IN HERE, MY TRUE WISH WILL NEVER BE GRANTED.

YOUR TRUE WISH?

I WANT TO BECOME ONE FLESH WITH YOU, SACHI-NII-SAMA.

BECAUSE I TRULY, TRULY LOVE YOU.

IF I LEFT HER ALONE THEN, SHE PROBA-BLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LIVE ON.

SO...

AI'S MIND HAD ALREADY ALL BUT SNAPPED.

WE DECIDED TO USE THE CARDS TO PERFORM THE ACT.

OKAY... LET'S DO IT, AI.

IT'S NOT OUR FAULT!

IT'S ALL YOURS, SACHI!

AND MY PARENTS, WHO DID KNOW OF EVERYTHING HE WAS DOING, BUT SAID NOTHING...

AI...

LATER, I WOULD TAKE MY INCORRI-GIBLE BROTHER, WHO AGAIN TRIED TO LAY HIS HANDS ON AI...

AND KILLED THEM ALL

THEN

I LAID ALL THE BLAME

ON THE SACHI I LEFT BEHIND WHO ONLY REMEMBERED THE KIRISHIMA FAMILY'S GOOD SIDE

THE CULPRIT IS MY BROTHER, KIRISHIMA SACHI.

I DID SO BECAUSE THAT WAS THE ONLY METHOD I COULD DEVISE THAT WOULD LET ME SURVIVE.

THAT CONCLUDES THE FACTS BEHIND THE KIRISHIMA FAMILY MURDER INCIDENT.

DON'T MESS WITH US, SACHI!

DON'T MESS WITH US.

WHY DID YOU EVEN KILL SHIN'ICHI-ROU-SAN?!

IN THAT CASE, WHY'D YOU KILL MY SISTER?!

[sfx]: Squeeze

IF YOU'RE TELLING US THE TRUTH, THEN EVEN IF YOU WERE GOING ABOUT THINGS THE WRONG WAY...

YOU WERE DOING ALL OF IT TO PROTECT YOUR LITTLE SISTER!

BUT THEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT, SO WHY'D YOU HAVE TO KILL THEM?

...THE ONE THING CAN SAY...

... 'M SORRY TO SAY THIS,

BUT NO AMOUNT OF PROBING WILL PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION.

IS THAT, IN THE END, THE TWO BROKEN SOULS LITERALLY BECAME ONE FLESH.

...WOULDN'T THAT BE IT?

SO WITHIN US LAY NOT ONLY A TREMENDOUS INSANITY, BUT ADDITIONALLY, WHERE THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOMETHING TO RESTRAIN IT, THERE WAS ONLY EMPTINESS.

THE HECK DOES THAT MEAN?

NOW THAT I HAVE RETURNED TO MY OWN BODY...

...HOWE-VER

WITH THOSE OF MY ACTIONS AS X, REALI-ZE...

WHEN I MATCH MY MEMORIES OF MY TIME WITH YOU...

I TRULY AM THE WORST.

I WAS NEVER WORTHY OF IT.

...
YOU...

...I'M SORRY, HIROKI.

YOU PLACED YOUR FAITH IN ME, BUT ..

YOU FREAKING IDIOT...!

And so the curtain closed on the X incident.

Yes. Everything had come to an end.

and came to understand my circumstances.

Along the way, the police learned of the existence of body switching,

HELLO... THIS WAY.

U-UMM, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO KAMIYA-KUN?

I-IN THE REFRIGE-RATOR?

IS HE GOING TO BE CHAR-GED WITH ANYTHING ?

MY SISTER IS IN HERE.

...IT PROBABLY WON'T BE ANYTIME SOON,

AND I DON'T BELIEVE HE'LL BE CHARGED WITH A MAJOR CRIME, BUT I CAN'T GUARAN-TEE HE'LL BE CONSIDERED INNOCENT.

BUT KAMIYA-KUN'S—

I'VE PREPARED MYSELF FOR WHEN THE POLICE COME KNOCKING.

AND I'LL QUIT SCHOOL.

.....

IT'S FINE, CLASS REP.

ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS AVENGE MY SISTER.

[sfx]: Pat

NOW THEN. LET US CONFIRM YOUR SISTER'S BODY.

YES, MA'AM

...PLEASE DO THE HONORS.

[sfx]: Snap

[sfx]: Open

!?

MY SISTER'S BODY—IT'S MISSING?!

WHAT THE... HOW CAN THIS BE?

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